

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 65, No. 28
Thursday, July 21, 2005

The First Command ... recruiting, training and educating professional, expeditionary-minded Airmen to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force



Dragons deployed
- 264

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Keesler News on Web:
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Dolphin is airborne, thanks to Flying Jennies

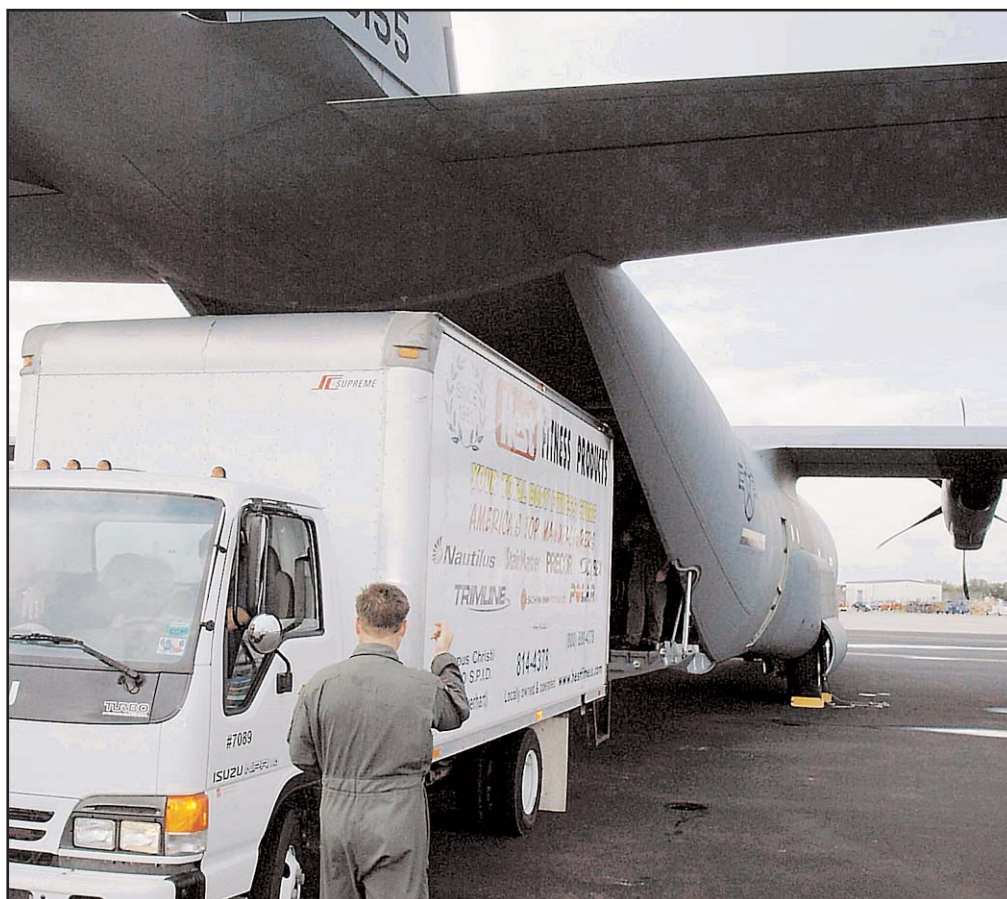


Photo by Tech. Sgt. James Pritchett

A local business donated this truck to bring Noah to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas. Senior Master Sgt. Todd Patterson, 815th AS loadmaster, guides the driver under the tail of the aircraft before Noah is moved over into the cargo area of the C-130J-30.

Air show set for Nov. 5

By Susan Griggs
Keesler News staff

Nov. 5 is the date for Keesler's next air show and open house.

It's the first such event for the base since April 2004, according to 1st Lt. Lisa Ferguson, 81st Training Wing Public Affairs.

Schedules and participants are still being finalized. The Sky Soldiers Vietnam combat aerial re-enactment team is already on the program. It's an outreach program of the Army

Aviation Foundation, a national non-profit volunteer organization featuring combat pilots and aircraft, with narration, radio calls and music.

Other acts include Army Special Operations Command Black Daggers parachute team, B-25, P-51 Mustang, and F-16, F-18 Super Hornet and T-6 Texan II demonstration teams.

Static displays and ground attractions are also planned.

By Tech. Sgt. James Pritchett
403rd Wing Public Affairs

No one knows how or why Noah, a rough-toothed dolphin, ended up near death on a Texas beach last August.

However, his journey home drew national media attention Friday when he was loaded onto a Keesler C-130J-30 for a flight to Florida.

A crew from the 815th Airlift Squadron — the Flying Jennies — was already flying a reserve airlift support mission, a week-long duty traveling around the country hauling people, cargo and equipment, when they were told they would be transporting a dolphin.

"Anytime we're able to help out with a humanitarian mission, whether it's carrying hurricane relief supplies in the states or air dropping food in foreign countries, I'm always proud to be a part of those missions," said Master Sgt. Steve Campanella, 403rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Lea Walker, regional director of the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network, invited the crew out to meet Noah the day before the flight.

She explained that when Noah was first brought in, he was so sick rescuers didn't think he had a chance.

"He had so many problems," she said. "We just didn't want to get too attached."

Noah had several infections, including ulcerations in his esophageal tract which prevented him from eating his normal diet. He also had an infection in his gums causing them to swell up, covering his teeth.

"That's how he got the name Noah," said Ms. Walker. "When we first saw him, we thought he was very old and didn't have any teeth."

It turned out Noah was more middle-aged, she said, between 17 and 22 years old, and showed a determination to live from the beginning. He was able to recover fully over the last 10 1/2 months and is now physically strong enough and healthy enough to travel back to his native Florida waters.

Ms. Walker and her team of 30-40 volunteers nursed Noah back to health in a warehouse at SeaLab provided by the Texas State Aquarium. In the warehouse

Please see **Dolphin**, Page 9

Post-mortem identification Unlocking the mystery

By Col. (Dr.) Robert Zalme

81st Dental Squadron

Everyone loves a mystery and all are intrigued by the complexities of a tough puzzle.

Somewhere inside each of us lies a hidden desire to be a detective, to collect the pieces, uncover the unknown, decipher the truth and swiftly solve riddles, be it a simple jokester's trickery or the sly scheme of a clever felonious criminal.

For uncountable years, examiners of the dead have been viewed with suspicious eyes, questioning what dark spirits might lie within their souls. I think each of us would like to one day walk in their shoes, to find what death is really all about, perhaps to even discover what might lie just beyond the precipice. But there's no magic here — death speaks for itself, loud and clear.

The examination of the deceased is a very orderly and precise scientific observation of the body, with a meticulous attention to detail. There's always an abundance of puzzle pieces to be discovered.

Forensic pathologists are summoned whenever there's an unnatural death, including accidental, suicide, homicide and suspicious circumstances. It then becomes their responsibility to examine the deceased to determine the identity of the victim, the cause and manner of death, the mechanism of death, the process in which the event resulted in death and the injury pattern. Intriguing as trace evidence may appear, most times the answers are clear to the skilled observer without the need for trace evidence.

Autopsies

When a medical examiner is charged to investigate an unnatural death, three varieties of autopsies are conducted: examination of the human remains, the vehicle and the mission — or the circumstances surrounding the event that contributed to the accident or survivability.

In the military, most major tragedies are aircraft accidents with multiple fatalities. Examination of the human remains includes a complete autopsy of the body to determine the identity of the individual and the process of their death. Injury patterns and the potential presence of a medical condition which might have contributed to the accident, such as a heart attack, are important.

Examination of the aircraft includes a careful exam of a working identical aircraft, as well as a thorough exam of the aircraft involved in the accident. Important to this end are the flying and maintenance history, the pattern of the destruction and viewing the parts of the aircraft that may have prevented the accident from being survivable such as the

collapse of the passenger compartment with loss of occupiable space.

Examination of the mission includes a review of maps, the weather, the time of day and the flight path, with particular attention to flight path obstructions. Important details are unforeseen hazards that might be important to other crews, such as new power lines.

In summary, the primary purpose of post-mortem exams is to establish how the accident came into being and how this accident resulted in the loss of life. Such a thorough review ultimately results in a safer aircraft and enhances the survivability of future accidents.

Identifying victims

There are many methods used to identify the victims, including fingerprints, dental comparisons and DNA profiles.

Dental comparisons are generally the most expeditious and useful in a major disaster where there are severely burned, fragmented and co-mingled remains.

Dental identification is a simple comparison of the existing dental records and the post-mortem records with X-rays. While sometimes a dental identification can't be established because of absent, incomplete or incorrect records, most often the dental comparison is successful.

There's no possibility that an incorrect identification can be made using dental evidence. However, that has occurred many times, even in high-profile cases. The reasons these errors have occurred are inexcusable, inaccurate conclusions made by inexperienced or overly-confident dentists. Believe it or not, inexcusable errors have also been made by experts utilizing fingerprints and DNA profiles. Again, in those cases, it was the experts who erred, and not the techniques themselves.

Fallen soldiers

Many countries across the globe have memorialized unknown soldiers who lost their lives in service to their country — America's no different.

The tomb of an unknown Confederate soldier is located in Biloxi on the grounds of Beauvoir. In 1921, following the conclusion of World War I, Congress authorized the construction of a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery anonymously honoring the service of one of 1,237 unknown American soldiers. Interment was in a white marble sarcophagus on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1921. This was followed on Memorial Day, May 31, 1958, by the simultaneous interment of unknown soldiers from World War II and the Korean War.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. William Lord

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357 or by writing to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, or e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

24-hour fitness

Comment — Is it possible to have a 24-hour gym on base to facilitate late-hour workouts?

Response — We do our very best to provide our customers the support they need. Unfortunately, Services can't support 24-hour fitness center operations. We currently operate three fitness centers, but are only authorized manning for two of them. Our fitness centers are open a total of 249 hours per week, exceeding the Air Force standard of 112 hours per week.

Well-watered

Comment — There's a sprinkler at the children's playground on Shadylawn that is constantly on. It runs all day and night, even when it rains. It concerns me because of the push for water conservation in housing.

Response — Our project inspector turned on the water at approximately 2 p.m. after the contractor completed sod installation. He spoke with the resident whose house he connected the hose to and asked them to turn it off that evening. Unfortunately, the resident lost track of it and didn't turn off the water as requested.

The newly-laid sod needs plenty of water to help it take root in the sandy soil around the playground. At 1.2 gallons per minute, the hose sprayed approximately 1,300 gallons over the past 18 hours. We charge 70 cents per 1,000 gallons of water to contractors, which brings the total cost on water used to about 91 cents. The cost of the sod is about \$1,800. A member of the civil engineering team was sent out first thing this morning to turn the water off.

Blackout netting

Comment — Black screen netting has been attached to some smoking areas on the base. With the tight budget we have now, isn't this a poor choice for spending money?

Response — Technical training students aren't allowed to smoke or use tobacco products. It's our responsibility to provide them with the most positive atmosphere to succeed within the phase restrictions we ask them to observe. The netting was installed to help us support our students and bring us in compliance with Keesler Instruction 40-102. It states: "It is inappropriate for active-duty instructors, civilian instructors, other permanent party personnel and other civilians on Keesler to use tobacco products during the school duty hours while within eyesight of students."

The recently-opened obstacle course required netting the smoking gazebos near the Sablich Center and 81st Communications Squadron. Netting was chosen because it's less expensive than fences and is more pleasing aesthetically.

KEESLER NEWS

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2004, 1997.

No. 1 in AETC,
2004, 1998, 1996;

No. 2, 2003, 2001,
1999, 1997, 1991;

No. 3, 2002, 1995.

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TRAINING AND EDUCATION



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Navy Seaman Isaiah McHugh, left, and Sergeant Katz, a CIS instructor, use an oscilloscope to look at a timing signal with Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason Sorge during class in Stennis Hall. The Sailors are cryptological technician students from Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit.

Instructors learn unique lessons in joint service environment

By Staff Sgt. Steven Katz

333rd Training Squadron

In a recent American Forces Press Service article, Deputy Defense Undersecretary for Readiness Paul Mayberry pointed out, "The United States military now fights as a joint team and must train routinely in a joint environment."

The challenges of teaching in such an environment are obvious in the 333rd Training Squadron's communications information systems course.

CIS is an advanced computer networking course that supports the National Security Agency. Students from all four Defense Department branches of service attend the course, with most from the Navy.

The CIS course not only prepares students to operate telecommunications equipment vital to joint operations, but creates an environment that fosters appreciation of the rich military history and traditions that distinguish the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps from each other.

The high volume of Navy students makes the CIS course unlike any other in the squadron, since most of 333rd TRS courses are specifically geared toward filling a niche in the training life cycle of Air Force personnel.

In addition to teaching the course, Air Force instructors get the chance to absorb the Navy's

terminology and culture, which is very different from their own.

CIS trainers learn quickly that a "compartment" is a room, a "chit" is a request form, the "head" is the restroom, the "galley" is the dining facility, "ladders" are the stairs and "covers" are hats.

"It's quite disconcerting to have a conversation with a fellow E-5 and have absolutely no idea what he's talking about," said an Air Force staff sergeant of talking with his Navy counterpart. "However, this kind of situation has turned out to be one of the best learning experiences in my Air Force career."

Understanding Navy terminology is only part of the learning curve for instructors — they also have to figure out the ranks of Navy students. A Navy rating is similar to an Air Force Specialty Code, but unlike the Air Force, the Navy incorporates both rating and rank into one title.

An E-5 in the Navy named Jones is verbally addressed as Petty Officer Jones, but in writing, an acronym depicting his job specialty and pay grade precedes his name. For example, CTO2 Jones includes CTO, the acronym for his cryptology job specialty, and the 2 for his rank, Petty Officer 2nd Class, the E-5 pay grade.

The Navy's core values — honor, courage, and commitment — vary slightly from the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do, but are just a different way of arriving at the same standard.

Local JROTC group to graduate from summer leadership course Friday

By Senior Airman
Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The Biloxi Junior Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps have a graduation ceremony Friday for their leadership school.

Approximately 118 cadets from four states and 15 different schools were at Keesler for the eighth annual Summer Leadership School which began July 17.

According to retired Senior Master Sgt. David Butler, aerospace science instructor for Biloxi High School, Friday will be a final opportunity for the cadets to show off their new skills.

“The cadets will execute a drill sequence,” he said. “It will be the same sequence that they have practiced since Sunday.”

Sergeant Butler said the cadets have been exposed to military life for the last week.

“Since Sunday, the cadets have marched his or her flight to and from the dining facility,” he said.

“We have volunteers to evaluate the cadets during the week. The cadets also had room and individual inspections this week conducted by cadet training advisors,” Sergeant Butler added.

The cadets had early mornings and activity-filled afternoons.

“For the last few days, the cadets had to get up at 4:45 a.m.,” he said. “They then did physical training from 5-5:30 a.m. After changing and eating breakfast, the cadets went to the Keesler NCO Academy for academic instruction on topics such as human relations, management, communication and leadership. The classes were taught by Air Education and Training Command NCO Academy instructors.”

Sergeant Butler also said that each of the activities and the evaluations were overseen by active duty and retired Air Force NCO’s and officers.

81st TRSS welcomes new leader

By Patty Bellocq

81st Training Support Squadron

Lt. Col. Dale King assumes command of the 81st Training Support Squadron from Lt. Col. Shane Courville, 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Keesler Club.

Colonel King comes to Keesler from Melbourne, Fla., where he commanded Detachment 2, 605th Test and Evaluation Squadron. His unit conducted operational test and evaluation of the newest Joint Surveillance Targets Attack Radar System's command and control system and hardware upgrades for the E-8C weapons system.

He's a senior air battle manager with more than 2,025 hours in JSTARS and airborne warning and control systems.

Colonel Courville, commander since June 2004, will be deputy commander of the 81st Training Group.

All in the family



Sera Chereskin, left, and her stepmother, Desarae Chereskin, are recipients of \$1,500 Air Force Aid Society Gen. Henry H. Arnold Educational Grants. They are the daughter and spouse of Senior Master Sgt. Alan Chereskin, 81st Medical Group. Miss Chereskin, who lives with her mother, Caglayan Chereskin, is a 2005 graduate of Biloxi High School. She plans to major in nursing at the University of Southern Mississippi. Mrs. Chereskin, 81st Training Support Squadron, is a senior social science major at Tulane University.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Hazardous waste class

Hazardous waste management training is 7:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Sablich Center auditorium.

The annual training is required for people who generate or handle hazardous waste.

For more information, call 377-3004 or e-mail thomas.minton@keesler.af.mil.

Technology show

A free technology show is 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 4 at the Keesler Community Center.

The event, hosted by the 81st Training Support Squadron, features company representatives and the latest in computers, networking and cabling, panels, projectors, computer-based training, multimedia software, simulation equipment, office data processing supplies and computer furniture.

For more information, call 888-282-2262, e-mail info@atc-expo.com or visit <http://www.atc-expo.com/shows>.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group's drill down competitions alter-

nate with non-prior service student parades behind the Levittow Training Support Facility.

Parades are 7 p.m. July 28 and Nov. 17. The September parade hasn't been scheduled.

Drill downs are 7 a.m. Aug. 12 and Oct. 7. The annual championship is 8 a.m. Dec. 2.

For information on student parades, call Tech. Sgt. Charles Veillon, 377-2789. For information on drill downs, call Staff Sgt. Deanna Attaway, 377-2103.

Education open house

An education open house is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 16 in Room 130, Sablich Center.

Refreshments and door prizes are offered.

The event is hosted by the education office, in conjunction with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, William Carey College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

For more information, call 377-2323.

Manpower openings

Senior airmen and staff ser-

geants with a mathematical background and in balanced or overage career fields with four to 15 years of service are prime candidates for retraining into the manpower and organization career field.

For eligibility information, call the military personnel flight employment office, 377-9639. If eligible, call Master Sgt. Shawn Cosgrove, 377-7376.

Troops to Teachers

For general information on Troops to Teachers, visit <http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/tt/index2.htm>.

Work study

Part-time employment is available to Chapters 30 and 31 Veterans Affairs people enrolled in college or vocational programs at least 75 percent status.

For more information or applications, call Robin Manson, 377-5149, or visit Room 224, Sablich Center.

Academic counseling

For appointments for counseling during area college registration, call 377-2323 or 2171.

Pharmacy upgrade Renovations begin Aug. 1

By Maj. Melvin Richards
81st Medical Support Squadron

The Keesler Medical Center pharmacy is getting ready for the most extensive renovation in its history.

The project is expected to begin Aug. 1 and last approximately 90 days.

Despite significant advances in pharmacy practice, medication safety standards and yearly increases in prescription volume, Keesler's main pharmacy has operated in the same basic configuration and equipment for about 38 years.

Recent standards from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Food and Drug Administration now require the pharmacy to undergo remodeling to comply with new federally-mandated medication safety preparation and dispensing standards.

"We have been working the project for the last three years and are taking every possible precaution to minimize the impact we know a project of this magnitude will have on the 1,500 patients we serve every day," said Col. John Quirk, pharmacy flight commander.

"We expect the project to take approximately three months," however there will be minimal impact in patient services while we bring the pharmacy up to current operational patient safety standards," he continued.

"We'll have to modify some of our processes to accommodate both the patients and the process," the colonel pointed out. "The most noticeable change is that all main hospital outpatient prescription services will be run out of the (base exchange) satellite pharmacy, but

"We have been working the project for the last three years and are taking every possible precaution to minimize the impact we know a project of this magnitude will have on the 1,500 patients we serve every day."

— Colonel Quirk

Temporary prescription process

Activation — Prescriptions are activated in the medical center at prescription activation stations located near clinic entrances or near the outpatient pharmacy lobby. The exact location is determined by the status of lobby renovations that should be completed simultaneously with the pharmacy project.

Pick-up — Patients must activate their prescriptions at the main pharmacy before prescription processing can begin. Prescriptions can then be picked up at the base exchange's satellite pharmacy drive-through service about an hour after activation.

Traffic modification — The current approach to the drive-through lanes will be modified to extend along the north end of the base exchange parking lot, then a right turn down the east side of the lot toward the garden shop, then a right turn toward the three-lane pick-up area. Traffic flow will be clearly marked with yellow traffic guides.

Patients may also pick up their prescriptions at the base exchange satellite pharmacy entrance, but due to anticipated patient congestion, this option isn't recommended.

there'll be no change to normal satellite pharmacy prescription services."

The satellite pharmacy's hours are extended to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday during the renovations.

Additionally, patients discharged from the emergency room after 7 p.m. and on week-

ends are issued handwritten prescriptions since night and weekend main hospital outpatient pharmacy services are unavailable during the remodeling.

Patients may utilize their TRICARE benefit to fill these prescriptions or wait until the satellite pharmacy opens during its normal hours.

IN THE NEWS

Death notification

Tech. Sgt. Michael Anderson, 81st Training Support Squadron, died July 13.

Any person or persons having claims for or against Sergeant Anderson's estate should call James Taylor, mortuary affairs director, 377-2081.

A-76 tentative announcement set

Announcement of the tentative A-76 cost comparison decision is 9:30 a.m. Aug. 1 at Welch Auditorium.

Buses run from Sablich Center and the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron building to the auditorium.

Meadows Drive Gate closes

Beginning Aug. 1, the Meadows Drive Gate is closed for about 10 days for installation of four traffic barriers.

Traffic is rerouted to the Oak Park Gate behind the youth activities center on Bay View Street during construction.

The new barriers remain operational after withstanding the impact of a 15,000-pound vehicle traveling 50 miles per hour.

New leader nominated for AMC

Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — President George Bush has nominated Lt. Gen. Duncan McNabb for the rank of general and to command Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

General McNabb is director of logistics for the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. Before that assignment he was the Air Force deputy chief of staff for plans and programs.

If confirmed by the Senate, he succeeds Gen. John Handy, AMC commander since November 2001.

June recruiting, retention rates up

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Recruiting and retention rates were up in June for all services in both the active and reserve components, Defense Department officials announced July 11.

The Air Force exceeded its June goal, recruiting more than 2,400 Airmen.

Charges in cheating investigation

Air Force Print News

COLUMBUS Air Force Base, Miss. — Court martial charges were preferred here July 13 against Capt. Richard Brimer for failure to obey a lawful regulation, making a false official statement and conduct unbecoming an officer for distributing controlled test answers.

An Article 32 investigation, the military equivalent of a civilian grand jury, is expected to take place in August.

Guilty plea in WAPS case

Air Force Print News

RAMSTEIN Air Base, Germany — Master Sgt. J. Abdur Rahim Saafir, Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, pleaded guilty July 14 to charges involving the distribution of controlled weighted airman promotion system testing materials.

He was sentenced to a dishonorable discharge, a demotion to airman basic and 42 months confinement.

Dolphin,

from Page 1

in Corpus Christi, Texas, there's a 40-foot wide tank, filled with 40,000 gallons of salt water where the team treats injured dolphins like Noah.

Ms. Walker has spent much of her time over the past 10 months searching for donations to keep the project going.

"We have to change the water in the tank every five days," she said. "When we do that, we have to add salt because we are using fresh water. The salt alone costs about \$1,000 every time we change it out."

Ms. Walker said she's fortunate to have found donors for many needs, such as fish to feed Noah and medicine needed for his recovery.

She also got Coastal America, an umbrella partnership of several federal agencies, to help arrange the airlift necessary to bring Noah home. Ms. Walker said they never considered transporting him over land because it would be too traumatic and dangerous for his health.

In order to transport the more than 300-pound dolphin, Ms. Walker's team had to construct a transport box about 10 feet long and 3 feet wide. He was picked up in a harness and moved over into the box where he rested on air mattresses during the trip.

"We can keep him comfort-

able in the tank for about a day," she said. "We really don't like to keep him out of the water that long."

When the team arrived at the aircraft, Ms. Walker brought along a small group of handlers who have worked with Noah and Dr. Tim Tristan, a veterinarian with the Texas State Aquarium. Dr. Tristan kept Noah sedated during the transport and monitored his condition. Others kept him wet using sprayers filled with water and calm by talking to him and touching him.

"We are very grateful to the Air Force Reserve for allowing this crew to come and help us move Noah," Ms. Walker said. "I don't know how we would have done it without them. Now I can relax, knowing that

Noah is going to be OK."

"I'm glad we could work this out and that we were able to transport the whole team," said Maj. Erik Olson, pilot and aircraft commander.

When the aircrew said farewell to Ms. Walker and her team at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., Noah was loaded onto a truck for one more ride to Gulf World Marine Park in Panama City, Fla. There he joins a female rough-toothed dolphin named Doris. Astro, a juvenile male also rescued in Texas, arrives Saturday, and Vixen, another female, arrives Sunday.

Rescuers are hoping the four form a small pod and stick together when they are released back into the Gulf of Mexico.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Quarterly demographics online

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force Personnel Center officials here recently published the quarterly demographics report.

The report offers a snapshot of the service's active-duty and civilian force as of June 30. It also outlines information regarding the Air Force's 354,229 active-duty Airmen and 145,271 civilian employees, such as age, sex, race and education level.

For more information, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/pubafairs/release/2005/04/demographics.htm.

EQUAL list now available

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for Airmen returning from overseas and continental United States mandatory movers from November through January 2006 is now available.

Airmen must work through their military personnel flights or their commander's support staff to update their preferences by July 28.

Deployed Airmen must work with their personnel representatives to update assignment preferences. Airmen are notified of their selection by mid-August.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by specialty and rank. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the EQUAL list.

Airmen can view the lists by logging into the restricted Assignment Management System online at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm> or visiting their local military personnel flight.

Campaign medal authorization

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials have authorized Airmen to wear the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Iraqi Campaign Medal.

The Department of Defense campaign medals apply to active-duty Airmen, reservists and guardsmen deployed on or after Oct. 24, 2001, for Operation Enduring Freedom and March 19, 2003, for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Airmen must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in Afghanistan or Iraq for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days to be eligible.

Airmen aren't entitled to more than one campaign and/or expeditionary medal for the same action, achievement or period of service.

There are also no devices for either campaign medals or the Global War on Terrorism-Expeditionary Medal.

Air Force Personnel Center officials are doing a mass system update in August to convert GWOT-E medals to campaign medals for Airmen who are eligible. Airmen who don't want the GWOT-E medal converted should notify their commander's support staff or military personnel flight.

For more information, contact the military personnel flight.

Mailing care packages

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency process mail for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. A letter takes seven to 14 days and a package 14-24 days.

For more information, call 1-800-275-8777 or visit <http://www.usps.com>.

New leader heads 2 squadrons



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Hank Watson, left, 81st Transportation Squadron, turns in property at the supply warehouse as Maj. Steven Foss learns about the process from Airman 1st Class David Balladarez, 81st Supply Squadron. Major Foss assumed command of both squadrons July 8. He comes to Keesler from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., where he earned a master's degree in national security affairs. He replaces Maj. Brian Hand, former 81st TRANS commander, and Maj. Patrick Kennerly, former 81st SUPS commander. Major Hand left in April to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Major Kennerly left in May to attend the Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

18 chosen for promotion

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Eighteen Keesler officers have been selected for promotion.

Majors' list

Eleven captains in the nurse corps have been selected for promotion to major.

They are:

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Ronald Leczner.

81st Medical Group — Vickie Skupski.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Muriel Gatlin, Steven Keene, Jacqueline Killian and William Wilson.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Cpts. Beth Baykan, Charles Cox Jr., Laura Koontz, Sean Strait and Louise Wolfe.

Across the Air Force, 165 nurses were selected from 221 considered by the P0404N board that convened at Air Force Personnel Center Nov. 1.

Captains' list

Seven Keesler members were among the 558 first lieutenants selected for promotion out of 561 considered by the P0305A board that met at AFPC March 31.

They are:

81st Mission Support Squadron — Julia Dockery.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Brandon Farley.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Jerome Crawford, Heather DeSalvo, Carlos Fabre, Janel Fullenkamp and Katrina Glazier.

New top cop takes command

By Senior Airman
Sarah Stegman

Keesler News staff

Maj. Alexis Sotomayor takes command of the 81st Security Forces Squadron from Lt. Col. Dean Cusanek, 9 a.m. Friday at the Keesler Club.

Major Sotomayor comes to

Keesler from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, where he was the training and resources division chief.

Colonel Cusanek, who's commanded the squadron since July 2002, moves on to Peterson AFB, Colo., as chief of security forces operations division at Air Force Space Command headquarters.

Surgeons welcome new commander

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Col. (Dr.) Virgil Jefferson assumes command of the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron from Col. (Dr.) Halifax King 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Keesler Medical Center's Don Wylie Auditorium.

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander, is the presiding officer.

Colonel Jefferson comes to Keesler from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where he served as chief of professional services for the 59th Surgical Operations Group at Wilford Hall Medical Center.

The 81st MSGS consists of four flights and almost 500 people. As commander, Colonel Jefferson is responsible for all inpatient and outpatient general surgery and surgical sub-specialties, the obstetrics and gynecology outpatient clinic, labor and

delivery, and inpatient nursing services, occupational and physical therapy clinics, surgical suite and intensive care units.

A surgeon with an extensive background in trauma surgery, the colonel received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Michigan, and doctor of medicine degree from the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit.

Colonel Jefferson entered the Air Force in January 1986 and was assigned to Hill AFB, Utah. Since then he has been assigned to a variety of staff positions at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom; MacDill AFB, Fla.; Southwest Asia; Mather AFB, Calif.; McClellan AFB, Calif.; and Brooks City-Base, Texas.

Colonel King moves to Scott AFB, Ill., to serve as 375th Medical Group deputy commander.

Air Force launches family housing survey

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — An Air Force-wide base resident survey has been launched to determine the level of satisfaction of family housing residents at installations worldwide.

The survey provides base-housing residents and housing managers an opportunity to respond to questions regarding housing facilities and services. At installations with privatized housing, property managers also participate in the survey.

Stateside residents should've received their surveys in June, while overseas residents should receive surveys by late summer or early fall, officials said.

The survey is customized for Air Force residents and takes about five minutes to complete.

Each resident is provided a pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope to return the survey.

Survey results are confidential and anonymous. The survey asks residents to respond to questions related to the physical property, services and management's performance. With the cooperation and candid responses by residents, the Air Force can collect important information that will be used to identify areas where improvements are required.

An executive summary of the survey results is provided to senior leaders at the wing, major command and Air Staff levels and used as a basis for decisions regarding the Air Force's military housing privatization initiative, military construction needs and the future of family housing.

School dates differ by district

Students living in Keesler's military family housing areas attend Biloxi public schools.

Parents who didn't pre-register students in May can enroll students at Biloxi schools, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

For questions about school zones, call 374-1810, extension 126. For students entering Biloxi schools from a home-schooled or unaccredited educational setting, call 374-1810, extension 125, for pre-registration instructions.

School starts Aug. 4, but students not registered by July 29 can't start classes until Aug. 8. Late registration packets are picked up Aug. 1-4 and returned Aug. 5 for processing.

Students in newly-annexed areas of Biloxi (north of I-10 and just south of I-10 in some areas) attend Harrison County schools, but may go to Biloxi schools on a tuition basis.

Registration times and dates, school start dates, phone numbers and Web addresses for other school districts:

Gulfport — elementary school registration, 8 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. today and Friday; for school zone assignments, call 865-4613. Middle



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Gloria Sharp shops for school supplies at the base exchange. Her husband is Master Sgt. Isaac Sharp, 336th Training Squadron.

school registration, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday through Aug. 2. High school registration, 8:30-11:30 and 1:2:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday. Classes begin Aug. 4. For more information, call 865-4600 or visit <http://www.gulfportschools.k12.ms.us>.

D'Iberville and other Harrison County schools — registration 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays until school starts Aug. 4; 539-6500 or <http://www.harrison.k12.ms.us>.

Jackson County — regis-

tration 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. today and Friday; school starts Aug. 4; 826-1757; <http://www.jcsd.k12.ms.us>.

Long Beach — registration 8 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. until school starts Aug. 5; 864-1146; <http://www.lbsd.k12.ms.us>.

Ocean Springs — registration 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. until school starts Aug. 4; 539-6500; <http://www.ossd.k12.ms.us>.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1. First-graders must be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1.

Shots part of back-to-school schedule

81st Medical Group

"Back to school" includes planning for required school immunizations.

Each year, school children entering specified grades are required to have immunizations at the start of the school year. While requirements vary slightly from state to state, TRICARE covers most immunizations under the clinical preventive services benefit.

Covered immunizations include diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, polio vaccine and hepatitis B.

If a child has never attended Mississippi schools, obtain a Mississippi Department of Health Compliance Sheet (Form 121) from the immunization clinic. Patients are advised to bring shot and identification cards. Pediatric appointments aren't required for "due" immunizations.

Clinic hours

The immunization clinic gives shots on a walk-in basis, 7 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays.

For more information, call 377-6543.

These shots are available to all TRICARE beneficiaries in age-appropriate doses and at specified age intervals in the 81st Medical Group.

If use of a civilian provider is necessary, certain guidelines apply for shots given as part of the TRICARE Prime clinical preventive services benefit.

TRICARE Prime

Immunizations are available to all Prime enrollees by their primary care managers.

Authorization isn't re-

quired if immunization is given in the PCM's office.

Co-payments are determined by the sponsor's status, active duty or retired, if services are acquired from a civilian provider.

TRICARE Extra, Standard

Preauthorization isn't required.

Cost shares may be associated with individual CHAMPUS services if they are the only service performed and completed in the doctor's office.

Schools generally notify parents when shots are due. When notified, parents may bring children, with shot and medical records, directly to the immunization clinic for immunizations and any other services due under the clinical preventive services benefit.

For more information about TRICARE clinical preventive services, call 1-800-444-5445.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

A squirrel chewed through an antenna cable between Jones Hall and Hewes Hall.

Squirrels devour electrical cables

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler has been overrun by unwelcome inhabitants — hungry squirrels.

“There are too many to even count,” said Elwood Isabelle, pest management leader for the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron. “We don’t have a squirrel hunting season at Keesler, so they just keep coming.”

The furry varmints, members of the same animal classification as rats, gnaw their way through electrical wiring, television cables and telephone lines, causing considerable damage in family housing units and other base facilities.

The pitter-patter of tiny squirrel feet in the attic, walls or other parts of a house is annoying or even frightening to residents.

“It’s not nice having squirrels running around in your house, especially when there are kids there,” Mr. Isabelle pointed out. “A few times they’ve gnawed their way inside the homes.”

To fight the problem, the 81st CES baits live cage traps with pecans and other foods and sets them outside the structures.

“We haven’t had much success setting traps in the

attics,” Mr. Isabelle said. “We don’t set traps just because squirrels are running around — they have to be a nuisance and causing damage.”

Keesler’s main squirrel inhabitants are common gray squirrels. They produce an average of four young per year, but in the coast’s mild climate, they may raise two sets a year. They live up to six years in a rural environment.

Squirrels have teeth that grow about 6 inches a year, but they keep them trimmed by chewing green pinecones, nuts and twigs ... and electrical wires. Damage to electrical lines causes many structure fires across the country each year.

Squirrels carry fleas, ticks and lice, and can be a source of parasite infestation for pets. They rarely bite and normally run rather than fight. They’ve been known to carry rabies, but they rarely survive if they’ve been bitten by a rabid animal.

Just in case, the trappers wear leather gloves if they have to pick up a live squirrel. Those captured are released in a wildlife management area.

For squirrel problems in base housing, call 377-2236. For information on squirrel control, call Mr. Isabelle, 377-3317.

DOD cautions against loan-shark lenders

By Terri Lukach

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department launched a new effort to educate service members about the dangers of borrowing from loan-shark lending companies.

The effort also teaches how to avoid ending up in a spiral of compounding debt.

The most prevalent type of loan-shark lending affecting service members is what is known as payday loans, said John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy. “A payday loan is essentially a plug — money that gets you from today to the next payday so you can cover your bills.”

The problem is that such loans are very expensive, he said.

“Typically, a payday loan of a \$100 will cost the borrower \$17 for two weeks,” he said. “The average payday loan is about \$500, so now

we’re talking about a fee of \$85.

“By itself, that’s not a big problem,” he said. “However, when you consider that it’s not uncommon for military members to roll the loan over four or five times, that \$85 grows exponentially to the point where you’re paying an enormous amount of money for the relatively meager amount of the loan.

“It got you through payday, but if you weren’t able to pay it off, now it’s two more weeks, and two more weeks, and you’re paying nearly 500 percent interest annually,” he said. “That’s a lot of money to pay.”

Considering that about 9 percent of all enlisted service members and 12 percent of all midlevel noncommissioned officers use payday loans, the potential for detrimental effect on mission accomplishment is very real, Mr. Molino said.

“If you’re in debt, you have other things in mind,” he said. “You’re doing things other than concentrating on the mission; maybe you’re taking on other employment.

“The effects are long lasting and go deep into a person’s performance; it affects unit readiness,” Mr. Molino said.

Part of the problem is the proximity of payday lenders to military installations.

“If you look at where they position their businesses, they are right outside the gate,” he said.

A recent study of 15,000 payday lenders in more than 13,000 zip codes in 20 states that have military installations revealed payday lenders open their storefronts near the installations.

Mr. Molino said the department is taking steps, such as holding fairs at military installations, to educate service members about the dangers of payday loans and familiarize them with ways to put themselves and their families on a sound financial footing.

“We can make (service members) smarter,” he said. “We can make them better consumers; we can teach them how to save for a rainy day, so when they need to borrow they can — and pay themselves back at no interest. We are

also doing something about payday lenders.”

Mr. Molino said his office is watching them closely, looking at behaviors and patterns that are inconsistent with state law and encouraging states to pass laws that aren’t only friendly to service members, but also require honesty and discipline on the part of payday lenders.

Mr. Molino said Georgia, Florida and Oklahoma are states that have taken positive action against payday lenders. In 2004, Georgia passed legislation eliminating payday lending from the state, he said, while Florida and Oklahoma now require a 24-hour waiting period between payday loans, thus eliminating rollovers and multiple loans.

“We believe we need to work hard to limit the impact of payday lenders, but the real answer is to help our service members and their families get control of their own finances to be in charge of their future,” Mr. Molino said.



Capt. Clarence Ward, 81st Training Support Squadron, history office curator, looks through newspaper clippings from the days when the base was known as Keesler Technical Training Center, January 1959 to February 1992.

Keesler Heritage Center

History comes alive in remodeled barracks



The Keesler Heritage Center on Meadows Drive reopened in May after extensive renovations. The center, housed in a barracks built in 1941, is one of Keesler's last three World War II buildings. The other two structures are the Keesler NCO Academy and 2nd Air Force headquarters.



Tech. Sgt. Edward Wilson, 81st TRSS, history office curator, sorts pictures in the center's extensive archives. The center's collection includes about 10,000 photographs, slides and negatives from Keesler's inception to the present.



Michael Plummer, 81st Training Wing, does historical research for a speech as base historian Don May helps him locate information in the archive library. The files include information from 1941 through 2003.



Captain Ward and Sergeant Wilson put a B-24 bomber pilot's uniform from World War II in a display case.



Tech. Sgt. Christopher Craig, 81st TRSS, browses through Women's Army Auxiliary Corps photos while visiting the heritage center's women's military history exhibit.



A painting of Keesler's namesake, 2nd Lt. Samuel Keesler, looms over Mr. May's shoulder as he arranges an exhibit in the center's Keesler Room. There are about 20 photos and other items donated by the Keesler family on display. Lieutenant Keesler, a Mississippi native, died behind German lines after being shot down in air combat with four enemy aircraft during World War I.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

It's time to map out mosquito-fighting strategies

81st Medical Group

Mosquitoes — in the home, around the yard or at a family outing — can make life miserable.

In order to get rid of mosquitoes, it's important to know about their lifestyle. Mosquitoes are born near water and reach adulthood within one week.

Blood-sucking females

Adult males feed only on nectar and plant juices. Females are blood feeders and generally require a blood meal before they can lay eggs. Several different species feed on humans.

During daylight hours, mosquitoes rest in cool, shady areas and become very active at dusk and dawn, when most bites take place.

Mosquitoes are known to transmit West Nile virus, malaria and other diseases. In some areas of the world, there's a high incidence of diseases transmitted by mosquitoes, but in this part of the United States, they're primarily a nuisance.

Banning breeding sites

South Mississippi's mild winters are often the prelude for an active mosquito season. However, mosquitoes can be stopped before they even get started. It often takes only a few control measures to rid dwellings of these pests. Preventing mosquito breeding reduces the risks of diseases and limits the nuisance of biting.

At home, take these steps:

Destroy or dispose of tin cans, old tires, buckets, plastic sheeting or other containers that collect water.

Don't allow water to accumulate at the base of flower pots or in pet dishes for more than two days.

Clean debris from rain gutters and remove any standing water under or around structures or on flat roofs.

Check around faucets and air conditioning and repair leaks or puddles that remain for several days.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Insect repellents can ward off mosquito bites.

Change water in bird baths and wading pools at least once a week.

Irrigate lawns and gardens carefully to prevent standing water.

Pull weeds along the foundation of your home and keep the lawns mowed, as mosquitoes live in grass and weed-ridden areas.

Keep windows, doors and porches tightly screened with screens of less than 16-18 mesh.

Repellent recommendations

Outdoors, you may find repellents helpful in preventing mosquito bites. Use repellents with active ingredients such as diethyl phthalate, diethyl carbate, diethyl toluamide (DEET) and ethyl hexanediol. Cover skin evenly, because mosquitoes find and bite untreated spots.

When possible, wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks, spraying clothing as well as skin.

Talk to your pediatrician about using insect repellent on children younger than 2 years old. Don't put repellent on children's hands because they may transfer it to their mouths or eyes.

Most devices that claim to attract, repel or kill mosquitoes outdoors are ineffective and should be thoroughly researched before purchase. Bug zappers using ultraviolet light to attract insects are ineffective in reducing mosquito populations or bites.

Controlling Keesler skeeters

Public health works very closely with the pest management office to control mosquitoes at Keesler.

While it may appear that pest management should apply insecticides to any area that receives complaints of mosquitoes, three things must happen first:

Follow the suggestions listed above to reduce the breeding and biting.

For persistent problems, call public health, 377-6898 or 3410.

If trapping indicates a sufficient number of female mosquitoes, public health notifies pest management so control measures may be taken.

This cost-effective system reduces the likelihood that mosquitoes become resistant to an over-application of pesticide.

West Nile virus facts

West Nile virus is transmitted by mosquitoes that feed primarily on infected birds.

People can get West Nile virus if bitten by an infected mosquito — not by touching or kissing another person. However, in a few cases, the virus has been spread through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding and even during pregnancy from mother to baby.

Most people infected with the virus won't show any symptoms at all. Up to 20 percent of those infected display symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last just a few days or several weeks.

About one in 150 infected people develops severe illness. Severe symptoms include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. Symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent.

The Centers for Disease Control note that the chance that an individual will become ill from a single mosquito bite is low. The risk is highest for people over 50, very young children and people with compromised immune systems.

Dead birds should be left alone because they may be infected with the virus. Call public health officials for proper disposal.

For more information, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>.

Programs aim to reduce military divorce rates

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Officials, recognizing the stresses military life puts on families, are stepping up efforts to help strengthen family relationships and avoid divorce.

A full range of outreach programs — from support groups for spouses of deployed troops to weekend retreats — aims to help military families endure the hardships of military life.

According to Keesler Chaplain (Capt.) John VanderKaay, the base chapel staff recognizes the needs of military couples and tries to address them at different stages.

“We have numerous chapel programs that are either going on now or will be started soon that address the issue of divorce,” said Chaplain VanderKaay. “We want to try to prevent it and help pick up the pieces after one has happened.”

As of May, 72 percent of the Air Force officers are married, and 4.3 percent of officers are divorced. Of those divorced officers, 3.1 percent are male, and 9.5 percent are female.

Air Force enlisted numbers show 57.8 percent are married and 6.3 percent are divorced. Of the divorced, 5.7 percent are male, and 11 percent are female.

Divorce rates run even higher in specific occupations, particularly those that expose people to traumatic events and danger, as well as heavy responsibilities and public scrutiny, Army officials said.

Despite the nationwide trends, the numbers represent far more than just statistics, said Army Chaplain (Col.) Glen Bloomstrom, director of ministry initiatives for the Army’s chief of chaplains.

“These are people we’re talking about. When a marriage ends, it’s the end of a dream,” Chaplain Bloomstrom said.

The toll goes beyond the human side and affects military operations as well, he said. Service members in happy marriages tend to be more focused on their jobs and less likely to have disciplinary problems, Chaplain Bloomstrom said. They’re also more likely to remain in the military.

While the Air Force doesn’t have service-wide marital support programs, Air Force officials said individual bases offer a wide variety of programs to support military families and help them through separations, deployments and the stresses relating to them.

“Support, both here at Keesler and at the deployed locations where our people serve, is offered before, during and after a deployment,” said Chaplain VanderKaay.

Senior Airman Lee Smith, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.

Chapel helps with divorce prevention

By Senior Airman Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The chapel offers different programs designed to help couples deal with divorce.

According to Chaplain (Capt.) John VanderKaay, Keesler chaplain, recent efforts have been made to target divorce prevention.

“The chapel recognizes the devastating effects that always accompany divorce and is seriously acting to stop divorces from happening,” he said. “I was moved from the Fishbowl Student Ministries Center to be the chapel’s ‘point man’ for marriage and family life ministries.”

There are no specific numbers of Keesler divorces, but he said the goal is to give as much information to couples as possible.

“There are numerous chapel programs that are either going on now or will be started soon,” he said.

In addition to counseling, worship and religious education opportunities, where help and teaching are offered to help couples stay married, programs include:

Financial Peace University, a biblically-based financial management course, because the top reason given for divorce is finance.

DivorceCare, a divorce recovery group for adults. One for the children caught in divorce is in the works.

Defending the Military Marriage, a recurring Bible study specifically written to address challenges of staying married in the challenging and often chaotic military.

Fighting for Your Marriage, a quarterly marriage enrichment/preparation workshop that equips couples to deal with common issues.

Before You Divorce is a counseling series for couples who are considering divorce that provides a look at the probable effects of that decision.

There’s also a marriage mentoring program, where an engaged or married couple is paired with a successfully married couple in how to have a great marriage.

“We have also offered marriage retreats for couples dealing with a deployment, helping them reconnect after, or prepare for, the long separation,” the chaplain noted.

Efforts have been made to reach out to student couples, Chaplain VanderKaay said.

“We offer a private lounge in the Fishbowl where they can share lunch, dinner or a few quiet minutes in the stressful training environment,” he said.

Australia getaways now available on off-duty travel site

By Tim Hipps

Army Community and Family
Support Center

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Military travelers can purchase vacations to Australia for about the same cost as a getaway to Europe simply by visiting a military-sponsored Web site.

Authorized morale, welfare and recreation patrons can go to the Off-Duty Travel Web site and click on "Joint Services Travel Specials" to begin a step-by-step process for building itineraries to a vacation down under.

After preparing the itinerary, they can visit a supporting information, ticket and reservation office or information, tickets and travel office to finalize the booking, confirm arrangements and pay for the vacation.

"We're estimating these packages will be 10 to 30 percent less expensive than anything else they're going to be able to find," said Dan Yount, chief of Army Leisure Travel Services at the Army Community and Family Support Center.

Patrons can purchase eight-day trips from Los Angeles to

Patrons can purchase eight-day trips
from Los Angeles to Sydney, including lodging
at three- or four-star hotels with some tours,
starting as low as \$1,300.

Sydney, including lodging at three- or four-star hotels with some tours, starting as low as \$1,300. It can be even more affordable for service members on rest-and-recuperation leave from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

"If someone is on R-and-R leave out of either Iraq or Afghanistan, the government will fly them any place that's shown as their destination on their leave orders," Mr. Yount said. "So when they're planning their R-and-R leave, and enter Sydney, Australia, as the leave destination, the transportation office will arrange transportation to Sydney."

"This is a benefit that could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go on a great vacation with Uncle Sam paying a major

part of the expense," he said.

The Australian packages are available to active-duty people, members of the reserve components, retired military, family members and Defense Department civilians.

"Any authorized patron (who) can provide proof of DOD affiliation is eligible," Mr. Yount said. "This kind of a product hasn't been available on a lot of military bases since 1999, when the Army and Navy parted company with commercial travel contractors providing leisure travel services on many installations. And it's never been available at a price this low."

Deployed service members approved to take authorized R-and-R leave can click on the "R-and-R Troop Travel"

link for more information.

Patrons can also click on the "Great Travel Deals" link. Deals include numerous vacation packages to all eight of Australia's states.

Mr. Yount said prices fluctuate based on the season, but said there is no bad time to visit Australia.

"Australian seasons are the opposite of ours, with winter occurring in June, July and August, and summer starting in January," Mr. Yount said. "Weather patterns are much milder than a winter in the northeastern United States or the Midwest."

New York, Los Angeles and Honolulu are the embarkation points. Travelers can make arrangements from their nearest airport as part of the travel pack-

age using a Qantas code-share partner, or they may make their own travel arrangements to those destinations.

If travelers don't have access to a local travel office, they can make arrangements via e-mail or telephone.

A deposit, including the full price of the airline ticket and a percentage of the land packages, is required upon booking. Travelers have until 45 days before departure to finish paying for the package.

"Somebody who wants to book a year out is going to be able to take their time paying, and it probably won't be painful at any one time," Mr. Yount said. "If they make (the reservation) within 45 days, they have to pay immediately."

Mr. Yount said the Australian vacation's affordability is tough to beat.

"We regard this opportunity as a great example of MWR in action to provide affordable, top-quality services and products at a price unavailable off the base," he said.

The Web site is <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/travelresources/>.

KEESLER NOTES

Outdoor theatre

Daddy Daycare, rated PG, is shown at the baseball field behind the youth activities center Friday.

Gates open 7 p.m. and the movie begins at dusk.

Ten volunteers are needed to assist in manning gates, inflatable jumpers and the concession stand.

For more information, call Master Sgt. John Lowe, 377-2593 or e-mail john.lowe@keesler.af.mil.

Teen Warrior Week

Volunteers are needed to help with this year's Teen Warrior Week, Sunday through July 29.

Teen Warrior Week includes camping, paintball and team building. Permissive temporary duty may be allowed by commanders.

For more information, call Juanita Harper, 377-3349.

GriefShare

The first meeting for GriefShare, a support group for people grieving the loss of a loved one, has been rescheduled to 10 a.m. Sunday at the former chapel next to Sablich Center.

The group, sponsored by the 11:30 a.m. inspirational gospel service, is open to all Keesler military and civilian members.

For more information, call Glenda Woodard, 377-5032, or Chaplain (1st Lt.) Winston Jones, 377-2761.

Promotion ceremony

The next noncommissioned officer promotion ceremony is 3:30 p.m. July 28 at the Keesler Community Center.

Uniform for promotees and speakers is service dress. Practice is 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Harold Boyd, 377-2027.

Kids on the Move

Kids on the Move, a program for children whose families are moving to new assignments, is 6-7 p.m. July 28, Sept. 22 and Nov. 17 at the youth activities center.

The program is sponsored by the family support center and youth activities center.

To preregister, call 377-2179.

Preschool signup

July 28 is the deadline to sign up for the part-day preschool program that starts Aug. 8.

Parents may enroll their children ages 3-5 in the program by stopping by the child development center and completing an Air Force Form 2606. Children are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Classes are 8:30-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays through working Fridays. The program fee depends on family income.

For more information, call the child development center, 377-2211.

Hurricane guides

Hurricane guides are available on a first-come, first-served basis in the Keesler News office, Room 113, Taylor Logistics Building 4002 (Supply), 517 L Street.

For more information, call 377-4130.

Retiree leader needed

The retiree affairs office is looking for a new director.

For more information, call Gary Schafer, 377-7964.

Air show booths

Squadrons interested in having food booths at the open house in November should send a representative to planning meetings, 9:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month.

For more information, call 377-0002.

Case lot sale

The commissary is having a case lot sale, Sept. 2-3.

Featured items include paper products, canned goods, assorted drinks, pet foods, cleaning products, snacks, baking goods and cereal.

Fraud, waste, abuse

The inspector general's office is the focal point for Keesler's fraud, waste and abuse program.

People can report suspected incidents in person to the inspector general's staff or by using Keesler's fraud, waste and abuse hotline, 377-7053. The anonymous hotline is available around the clock.

The inspector general's office is in Room 106, 81st

Training Wing headquarters.

For more information, call 377-3010.

Post-deployment

Briefings for people returning from deployments are 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the manpower conference room on the second floor of Sablich Center.

For more information or to sign up, call 377-2179.

Logo contest

The African-American Heritage Committee is sponsoring a logo-designing contest.

Participants develop a creative drawing clearly depicting the theme, "Celebrating community: A tribute to black fraternal, social and civic institutions."

The winner receives a cash award and a paid ticket to the AAHC luncheon.

The deadline for entries is Dec. 9.

For more information, call Minnie Gray, 377-7001, or Pamela Tunstall, 377-4212.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic, 800/802 Rodenberg Avenue in Bay Ridge housing area accepts furniture, appliances, area rugs and carpets, cutlery, dishware, maternity clothing and infant clothing.

All items must be clean, serviceable and ready for immediate use. The attic is open 3-6 p.m. Fridays.

For more information, call 257-9586. If donating large items, call 229-0562.

MPF hours

Hours for relocations, retirements and separations at the military personnel flight:

Appointments only — 8 a.m. to noon Mondays-working Fridays.

Walk-ins — noon to 4 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Shirley Bailey, 377-2244.

Zero overpricing

Participation in zero overpricing through the IDEA program may entitle submitters to a percentage of the savings.

Submit items through ZOP, to 81 SUPS/LGSPQ, Attn: Terry Brandenburg, 377-5794 or FAX 377-9521.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Gotcha!



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Michael Wiley, left, 81st Communications Squadron, looks on as Marshal Johnson, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron-A, runs to third to avoid the throw by A.J. Rabideau, 81st CS, during the two teams' regular season finale July 14. 81st CS' 12-8 victory was one of the final regular season games played. The postseason tournament began Monday.

Softball player tries out for Air Force team

By Senior Airman Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

A Keesler softball player had been invited to tryout for the Air Force men's softball team next month.

Joshua Wiggs, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, was one of 25 Air Force players and coaches invited to participate in the All Air Force Men's Softball Trial Camp Aug. 17-Sept. 4 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

If he makes the team, Wiggs represents the Air Force at the Armed Forces Softball Championships at Stanford, Fla., Sept. 5-10.

Air Force members from as far away as

Osan Air Base, Korea, will compete for spots on the Air Force team.

Each year, the Air Force, along with the Army, Navy and Marine Corps play a tournament to crown a softball champion among the services.

Last year, the Air Force men's softball team took the title.

After the tournament, the best players from each team are named to the Armed Forces team which competes in the Amateur Softball Association West Region National Tournament, Sept. 15-18 in San Antonio.

Keesler lifters strive at championships

By Senior Airman Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

Two Keesler powerlifters placed at a recent lifting competition at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., June 23.

Jerome Adams, 335th Training Squadron, and Herbert Hayes Jr., 81st Operations Support Flight, both earned recognition at the Air Education and Training Command and Amateur Athletic Union's fourth MuscleMania Powerlifting Championships.

Adams placed second in the 220-pound weight category and Hayes finished first in the 308-pound category for AETC. Adams also placed second in the AAU Military National Male lifting category.

Retired and active-duty weightlifters participated in the championship in three categories: squat, dead lift and bench press.

Overall competition winners were determined by adding total pounds lifted in all three events.

"I lost my balance and fell back with my third attempt of 540 pounds," Adams said. "On the bench, I almost lost my head literally and then I lost it figuratively. On my second attempt at 390 pounds, I got out of the groove and came crashing back down on my throat. Luckily the spotters caught the bar just as the iron touched my neck. I lost my cool after that and ended up missing my third attempt bench as well."

Adams, who has been lifting since he arrived here in 1999, said he will be lifting less and running more in the future.

"I am done competing for 2005," he said. "Running and powerlifting are at opposite ends of the fitness spectrum. It is almost impossible to do both well. I plan on doing some local powerlifting meets in 2006 and possibly going back to AETC/ Military nationals next year. I will continue to lift in the meantime striving to get stronger so I can put up bigger numbers in the future."

First Lt. Jon Quinlan, 314th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, contributed to this report.

Rodeo comes to Gulf Coast

By Senior Airman Lee Smith

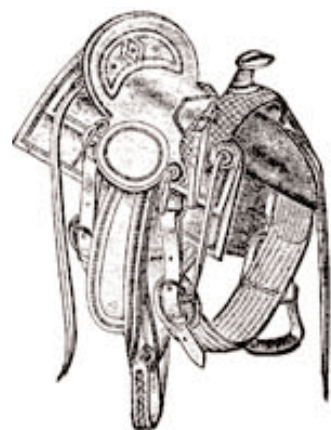
Keesler News staff

The rodeo is coming to town in August and Keesler is invited.

The Klein Brothers Professional Rodeo performs at the fairgrounds in Gulfport Aug. 19-21, but members from the team visit Keesler July 28 to promote the event at the base youth center.

According to Terri Gonzalez, 81st Services Division assistant marketing director, there are three shows just behind the youth center to let people know the rodeo is coming.

"The event will be called 'Cowboy Day,'" she said. "There will be a clown, a petting zoo, stick horse races and a mini bull. They will be giving away tickets to the rodeo



at each of the shows for children ages 3 and up."

Rodeo tickets for the August performances are \$10.

Aug. 19 is Military Appreciation Night and members will receive a discount on tickets for that evening's performance.

For more information on the event, call Thomas Golden, commercial sponsorship coordinator, at 377-1597.

SCORES AND MORE

Adverse weather

If weather is doubtful, the sports director or designee decides if the scheduled games take place no later than 3 p.m. If weather becomes a safety issue after 3 p.m., then the officiating crew makes the decision at 6 p.m.

Basketball

Varsity team — men's tryouts 6-8 p.m. Monday, Blake Fitness Center. The Dragons are defending Air Education and Training Command champions.

Bowling

Editor's note: For more information, call Gaudé Lanes, 377-2817.

Winter league registrations — are being accepted now for adults and youth.

Youth bowling discount — 5-9 p.m. Thursdays. Teens bowl four hours for \$5.

Half price for Navy Seabee personnel — Tuesdays.

Summer leagues — registrations accepted for Monday League, Thursday morning seniors, Friday mixed, Sunday Incredibles 9-ball and base intramurals.

Birthday parties — 2-6 p.m. Saturdays. Reservations required.

Family day — noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. Parents pay, their children bowl the same game free.

Hurricane Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Youth special — ages 17 and younger bowl for \$1 a game anytime except during Hurricane Alley.

Non-prior service students — show your UBU card and receive discount for open bowling and Hurricane Alley.

Play and save cards — bowl 21 games for \$25.

Bowl-a-rama — open to 4 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays bowl two hours for \$8.95. 4 p.m. to closing Mondays-Saturdays, all-day Sundays, bowl two hours, \$9.95.

Cheerleading

Tryouts — for the Keesler Dragons Varsity Spirit Squad are 2-5 p.m. July 30-31 at the Blake Fitness Center. Those selected will cheer for the men's and women's basketball teams. For more information, call Courtney Wallace at 432-3151 or (229) 229-0323.

Fitness

Editor's note: For more information, call Blake Fitness Center, 377-4385; Dragon Fitness Center, 377-2907, and Triangle Fitness Center, 377-3056.

Fitness center equipment orientations — 9 a.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. Saturdays at Blake; 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Dragon; and 2 p.m. Thursdays at Triangle. No appointment necessary.

Sports physical — pediatric clin-

ic provides physical for students. Call TRICARE, 1-800-700-8603.

Blake Fitness Center

Aerobic workout tapes — available for free checkout. For more information, call 377-4409.

Dragon Fitness Center

Computerized fitness assessments and counseling — available by appointment only. Call 377-2907 or 377-4409.

Aerobics — variety of free classes offered to accommodate most fitness levels. For more information, call 377-4409.

Parent/child fitness room — 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays with workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months-7 years.

Triangle Fitness Center

Squat, dead lift, bench press wall of fame — best lifters in each weight category gets photo on the wall of fame and free T-shirt. Competitions are 5 p.m. working Fridays.

Flag football

Tournament — Barksdale Air Force Base, La., football team hosts a flag football tournament, Aug. 27-28, Tinsley Sports Complex Bossier City, La. Cost \$240 a team. Game play is eight-man, no-contact. Trophies awarded to the top three teams. Deadline for entries is Aug. 23. For more information, call Aubrey Williams at DSN 781-3894, or e-mail aubrey.williams@barksdale.af.mil.

Coaches meeting — 1:30-2:30 p.m. Aug. 11, Vandenberg Community Center. This is also the deadline for letters of intent. Games will be scheduled for Sept. 6 or 7 based on the number of teams participating this year.

Golf

Editor's note: For more information, call Bay Breeze Golf Course, 377-3832.

Non-prior service student special — \$15 for unlimited rounds each day, including green and cart fees and club rental.

Individual and group lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes.

Outdoor recreation

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3160 or 3186.

Boat slip rental — boats up to 20 feet, \$50 per month; 20-50 feet, \$2.50 per foot. Power, water included.

Camping packages available for rent — with sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents.

Deep sea fishing trips — 7 a.m. Sundays, down Fridays. \$40.

Dinner cruise — with a choice of days. \$40 per person.

Disks for disk golf — available for rent or purchase.

Fishing trips to oil rigs — \$650 for a maximum of six people.

July fishing tournament — weigh the largest flounder at marina

and receive a \$100 savings bond.

Pontoon boat training — test and certification is necessary to rent a pontoon boat.

Pool parties at base pools — for more information, call 377-3568.

Softball

American League

Final regular season standings

Team	W	L	T
81st MDOS	11	1	0
338th TRS-A	11	1	0
81st CES-A	10	2	0
738th EIS	7	5	0
335th TRS-A	6	6	0
CNATTU-A	6	6	0
Firefighters	6	6	0
81st CS	6	6	1
81st OSF	5	7	0
81st DS	3	7	0
81st SUPS-TRANS	3	9	1
332nd TRS	3	9	0
336th TRS	1	11	1

July 11 — 81st MDOS 7, 81st SUPS-TRANS 0; 81st CS 15, Firefighters 12; 81st OSF 7, 81st DS 0; 81st CES-A 7, 336th TRS-B 0; 338th TRS-A 7, 738th EIS 0;

July 13 — 81st CS 12, 81st CES-A 8; 81st OSF 7, 336th TRS-B 0; 81st MDOS 7 CNATTU-A 1; 738th EIS 15, 335th TRS 1; Firefighters 13, 332nd TRS 7; 338th TRS-A 7, 81st DS 0.

National League

Final regular season standings

Team	Won	Lost
336th TRS-A	12	1
81st MSGS-A	11	2
335th TRS-B	10	2
403rd Wing	10	3
81st MSS/TRW/2AF	9	4
333rd TRSS	8	5
81st MDSS	7	6
81st TRSS	7	6
338th TRS-B	4	9
81st CES-B	4	9
334th TRS	3	7
CNATTU-B	2	10
81st MSGS-B	1	11
AFOSI-Legal	1	12

July 12 — 333rd TRS 14, 81st CES-B 7; 403rd Wing 13, 81st MDSS 8; 81st MSS/TRW/2AF 20, 81st TRSS 7; 338th TRS 7, AFOSI-Legal 0; 403rd Wing 7, 81st CES-B 0.

Swimming

Bay Breeze pool — open daily noon to 6 p.m., except Tuesdays.

Main pool — open daily noon to 5:30 p.m. except Mondays. Lap swimming is available during normal hours.

Triangle pool — open daily noon to 7 p.m. Lap swimming is available 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Youth activities center

Youth sports program — for information on registrations for upcoming programs, call 377-4116.

Instructional classes — taekwondo, ages 5 and older; gymnastics, ages 3 and older. For more information, call 377-4116.

GRADUATIONS

Keesler NCO Academy Class 05-5

81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Patrick Harris, Ricky Nichols and Jeffrey Zaleski.
81st Dental Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Laura Leos.
81st Medical Group — Tech. Sgt. Michelle Gant.
81st Medical Support Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Nikki Klinger.
81st Mission Support Group — Tech. Sgt. Elroy Seeley.
81st Mission Support Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Richard Adams.
81st Security Forces Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Billy Waller.
81st Services Division — Tech. Sgt. Carl Cephas.
81st Training Support Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Crista Auge and Russell Griswold.
81st Transportation Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Michael Archuleta and David Hollyman.
332nd Training Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Terry Derise and Robert Goodwin.
334th TRS — Tech. Sgts. Lori Derr (distinguished graduate) and Christopher Southard.
335th TRS — Tech. Sgt. Steve Balli.
336th TRS — Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Peterson (distinguished graduate).
338th TRS — Tech. Sgts. Timothy Bradford, Crystal Gaugler, William Mays, William Osborne and Nathan Radke.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Basic electronic principles — Airmen Basic Nykeya Andrews, Aaron Aris, Anthony Bayle, Justin Bogue, Christopher Chandler, Daren Denker, Isaac Fox, Erik Garrett, Bernard Gilles, Adam Hoffman, Dustin Kline, Jacob Kowalski, Alexander Lee, Grant Lehman, Michael Matticks, Robert McClistter, Justin Monty, Sara Nass, Gregory Olsen, Terry Partee, Shanna Pence, Erica Phelps, Jerry Priddy, John Randall, Luke Rials, Landon Rich, Derek Schaaf, John Shuster, Adriana Silva, Preston Smith, Justin Tyree, Daniel Watson, Joaquin Watson, Matthew Whitney, Edward Willauer, Carl Williams, Matthew Williams and Rael Wilson; Pvt. William Rosenoff; Airmen Nathan Christensen, Jeffery Cunningham, Tony Ditto, Robin Ennis, Flint Gilley, Wayne Grimm, Nicholas Hazen, Evan Henderson, Zachery Hitchcox, Rodolfo Landa, Craig Maguire, Kenneth Manley, Hector Renteria, Jason Sanborn, Christopher Wenger, Jessy Wilks, Joshua Williams and Devin Wilson; Airmen 1st Class Eric Andrade, Derek Baker, Sven Bickham, Christopher Clark, Kyle Cossey, Michael Cox, Edward Goehle, Megan Goetsch, Timothy Harding, Darius Hayes, Xuan Huynh, William Kammerer, Terrence Kitchen, Dustin Lee, Joseph Lambert, Dustin Lee, Christina Lilly, Zachery Martin, Jason McWhirter, Robert Spiegel, Joshua Stringfellow, Jeffrey Szymanski, Jonathon Turner, John Wallen, Brian Walters, Aaron Wells and John Whalen; Senior Airmen John Albin, Jeremy Armstrong, Rory Buckley, Christopher Ferguson, Matthew Hayes, Jet Heng, Otis Hurst, David Pitcher, Gregory Smith, Christopher Tenney and Lawannda Ward; Army Sgt. Devon Washington; Sgt. Shaikhhan AlSubhi; Staff Sgts. Shaikhhan Al Subhi, Brian Brunk, Peter Chevalier, James Davis, Joshua Demenge, Earnest Donnell, Franklin Floyd, Jason Hutchinson, Joseph Inman, Timothy Jared, Michael Long, Jesse Marsh, Jeffrey Maurer, Angelo Munoz, Cresencio Onofre and Michael Stanton; Tech. Sgt. Charles Hollingsworth; Capt. Eugene Irby; Warrant Officer 2nd Class Mahmood Al Rahbi.
Metrology course — Airman Basic Michael Mitchell; Airmen 1st Class Robert Diehl and Stephanie Gunner; Staff Sgt. Kelly Dotts; Capt. Ioanna Polyzou.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems apprentice course — Airmen Basic Justin Fox and Robert Johnson; Airmen 1st Class Christopher Cummings, James Sidwell and Arturo Visaraga; Senior Airman Erwin Jocson; Staff Sgts. Matthew Blodgett and Bradley Wright.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass
Medical Center Chapel.....Sacrament of Reconciliation, 8 a.m.
Medical Center Chapel8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel.....Sacrament of Reconciliation, 9:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel.....10 a.m.
Weekday Masses
Medical Center Chapel11:15 a.m.
Fishbowl.....Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday religious education
September-May.....8:30 a.m.
Classes held at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For class schedules, call 377-4625.
Tagalog worship
5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, rosary; 5:45 p.m. Our Lady of Perpetual Help novena; 6 p.m. Mass, Our Lady of Fatima Church, 2090 Pass Road, Biloxi. For more information, call 388-3887.

Islamic

Building 2003 — for international students, temporary duty and permanent party; prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday.
For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Orthodox

Holy Trinity Church (Greek Orthodox) — 255 Beauvoir Road, Biloxi; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 a.m. Sunday. For more information, call 388-6138.
St. Mary’s Church (Eastern Orthodox) — 3224 D Ave., Gulfport. For more information, call 864-1568.

Jewish

Beth Israel Synagogue — 1946 Southern Avenue, Biloxi. Services 8 p.m. Fridays; an Oneg Shabbat follows each service. For more information, call 388-5574 or visit cbibiloxi@juno.com.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. Student family home evenings, 7 p.m. Mondays, Fishbowl. For more information, call 374-5627.
Biloxi Ward — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, 14928 Big Ridge Road, North Biloxi. For more information, call 435-9506.

Protestant

Sunday worship
Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.
Fishbowl student contemporary service.....10 a.m.
Larcher Chapel praise and worship service.....11:15 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....11:30 a.m.
Sunday religious education
September-May.....10 a.m.
Classes held at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For class schedules, call 377-2520 or 4625.
Prayer service for peace — noon Wednesdays, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call 377-4861.
Joy night concerts — 7 p.m. Fridays featuring the inspirational gospel service choir.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Jamie Pauls, Gary Pew, Robert Pupilis, Russell Rathbone and Javon Smith Jr.; Airmen James Dunn and Donita Session; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Anderson, Vernon Apple, Jonathan Lacy, Anthony Riggs and Gadiel Rivera; Senior Airmen Brett Froman and James Mashaw; Staff Sgts. Jason Brumbaugh, Joshua Burbach, Jason Hancock, Schuka Hartsfield and Matthew Sizemore.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airman Basic Gilberto Martinez; Airman 1st Class Stephen Blevins; Senior Airmen Eric Harcar and Catherine Martinez; Staff Sgts. James Burgess, Michelle Clark, Jesse Genier, Heather Halverson, Amber Mellen,

Michele Ordway, Lupersio Perez, Jennifer Porter and Kelly Whiteaker; Tech. Sgt. Denise Zamarron; Master Sgt. Georgina Capulong.

Personnel apprentice course — Airman Basic Vernette West; Senior Airmen Matthew Edwards and Roque Soto; Staff Sgts. Shane Cardines, Brian Edwards and Shannon Hughes; Tech. Sgts. Vanessa Hinnant, Kristine Rupp and Jaimie Saunders.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Trevor Finnell, Arthur Gonzales, Jere Gossert, Andrew Johnson, Nathaniel Rohaly, Charles Sullivan, David Urbinati and Leslie Woodruff; Marine Pfc. Jason Contreras; Airmen 1st Class Zachariah Ritsema and Ashley Whalum; Navy Airman Herson Rivera; Senior Airmen Eric Villafranca and Stuart Vogt; Staff Sgt. Andrew Narog; Tech. Sgts. Robert Browder, John Endzelis, Craig Grant and Scott Jennings.

338th TRS

Radar systems flight — Senior Airmen Jason Jones.

PROMOTIONS

2005 Air Force Personnel Center boards

Through today — lieutenant colonel line, JAG, BASC, MSC, NC.
July 25-29 — senior noncommissioned officer supplemental.
Aug. 2-12 — blocked.
Aug. 15-26 — command screening.
Sept. 12-23 — colonel line, JAG, BASC, MSC, NC.
Sept. 26-30 — special selection.
Oct. 4-6 — blocked.
Oct. 11-21 — chief master sergeant evaluation.
Oct. 25-27 — Air National Guard colonel, second session.
Nov. 14-18 — colonel, lieutenant colonel and major MC, DC.
Dec. 5-16 — major line, CHAP, JAG, BSC, MSC.

TRICARE

Beneficiary services — active duty and dependents enroll at Keesler Medical Center, Room 4B-107, 377-9962. To enroll in TRICARE Prime, retirees and their dependents call 1-800-444-5445 or visit the TRICARE Service Center, 2130 Pass Road, Biloxi, 385-6650.

Claims services — 1-800-403-3950.

“Urgent” after hours primary care manager access — 1-877-794-4629.

Health benefits/beneficiary counseling, debt collection assistance — call Carolyn James, 377-6580, or Linda Davis, 377-6001. Ms. James is in Room 4B-106 and Ms. Davis is in Room 4B-105 in Keesler Medical Center.

Education center for women — in women’s health services at Keesler Medical Center, offers educational tools for women’s health issues. TV/VCR, interactive touch screen computer and multimedia computer connected to the Internet are available for personal viewing; videos may be viewed in the clinic or checked out for home use. Walk-ins welcome. For appointments, call 1-800-700-8603. For more information, call 377-6920 or 6921.

Keesler Medical Center clinic hours — family practice, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday; pediatric clinic, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday..

On the Web — Keesler Medical Center’s Web site is <http://www.keesler.af.mil/81mdg>. For TRICARE information, visit <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>. For Region South information, visit the Humana Military Healthcare Services Web site, <http://www.humana-military.com>.

TRICARE Service Center — 2130 Pass Road, Biloxi, 385-6650. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 05-F — Aug. 15-Sept. 20.

Please see **Digest**, Page 29

Digest, from Page 28

First Term Airmen Center

Class 05-15 — graduation July 28.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 05-6 — Aug. 1-Sept. 8.

Chapel

Book of Romans adult Bible study — 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For more information, call Chaplain (1st Lt.) Winston Jones, 377-2761.

Keesler Medical Center

Shaving clinic — pseudofolliculitis evaluations 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays.

Allergy/immunization clinic — 7 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays. For more information, call 377-6543.

International travel clinic — weekly appointments available; schedule at least three weeks before a planned trip. Travelers should provide a list of destinations when they book an appointment and bring their immunization record to the appointment. For appointment, call Pat Baugh, 377-6166.

McBride Library

Reference orientations — 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Story time — 10 a.m. Wednesday, ages 2-6.

Vacation time — new travel guides on display; books on compact disc available for checkout.

Library services — free Internet use; copies 10 cents a page; copy machines 5 cents a page. Fax, first page \$3, each additional page \$2, local and incoming faxes, 50 cents a page.

Orientations/volunteer work — for more information, call 377-2181.

Arts and crafts center

One-stroke beginner painting — 1-3 p.m. Saturday; \$40 including most supplies.

One-stroke project class — 1-3 p.m. Sunday; \$25. Beginner class is prerequisite.

Rubber-stamped card making — 6 p.m. Tuesday; \$10.

Ceramic painting technique — ongoing signups; minimum five students. For more information, call 377-2821.

Beginner framing — next class begins Aug. 2.

Advanced matting — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. July 29; \$15 including supplies. Beginner class is prerequisite.

Three-dimensional decoupage kits — 1 p.m. Saturday; \$5 plus \$5-\$15 for kit.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 5-7 p.m. Friday; \$15 including supplies and tool use; maximum three students.

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday; \$20 including supplies and tool use; maximum three students.

Youth summer craft camp — 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through July 28; \$20 per week.

End-of-summer-camp jamboree — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 31; free refreshments and awards.

Air Force Artist/Craftsman Contest youth division — ages 17 and younger; two categories; entry deadline Aug. 11. For more information, call 377-2821.

Multi-craft shop — enter scrapbook layout contest and be eligible for prize.

Woodshop special — build bird feeder, bird house or squirrel feeder with your child; \$5 including shop use.

Auto shop — air conditioning checks available.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Transition assistance three-day workshop — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 8-10, Sept. 12-14, Oct. 3-5, Nov. 7-9 and Dec. 5-7, Room 130, Sablich Center. To preregister or for more information, call 377-8591 or 8592 or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Retirement and veterans briefing — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 11, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, Room 130, Sablich Center. To preregister or for more information, call 377-8591 or 8592.

Pre-separation counseling — required by law for individuals leaving the military no less than 90 calendar days before separation or retirement date. Individuals with orders can attend the briefing on Thursdays in Room 130, Sablich Center, excluding the week of the transition assistance program workshop, at 1 p.m. for those separating or 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Bring a copy of orders to the session.

PALACE Chase information briefings — 10 a.m. first and third Tuesday of each month, Room 216, Sablich Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tony Woods, 377-7116.

Computer use

Government computers — commanders may authorize their use for the preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an “as available” basis as long as use of the equipment for the purpose doesn’t adversely affect the mission.

Transition employment opportunities public folder — go to e-mail “public folders” and click on “transition employment opportunities” for job opportunities for active duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

Employment assistance

Employment Network Center — 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3:45 a.m. working Fridays, Room 126, Sablich Center. National and local job search information and Internet computer access for active-duty and military family members, free e-mail service, fax service and computers and laser printers to complete resumes and federal job applications. For more information, visit Room 126, Sablich Center, or call 377-8593 or 8592.

Health care professionals — needed by the Air Force Reserve. Critical Air Force Specialty Codes available in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida units are 44M3, 44Y3, 46F3, 46P3, 47G3, and 48R3. Some may be eligible for signing bonus or loan repayment. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. George Adams, health professions recruiter, 377-8332, or e-mail george.adams@keesler.af.mil.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.blue.togray.com>.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

Department of Veterans Affairs — <http://www.vba.va.gov/efit/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

America’s Job Bank — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Keesler Community Center

Youth and adult guitar lessons — half-hour lessons 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; \$55 month. For appointment, call 377-3308.

Weight Watchers — 5:45 p.m. Thursdays; weigh-in 5:15 p.m.

Coloring contest — pick up a coloring/activity sheet and submit entry no later than 4 p.m. Saturday.

Vandenberg Community Center

Summer dance bash — 6 p.m. to midnight Friday. Beach music, hula hoop and dance contests, free food. Come dressed in appropriate summer attire.

Eight-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays.

Nine-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays before nonworking Fridays.

CyberSport — Internet gaming available 3-10 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. For information on weekend hours and free lessons, call 377-4519.

Late night dance and DJ — 6 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays. \$3. People with birthdays in July show their identification card and get in free third Friday of the month.

Please see **Digest**, Page 30

DINING FACILITIES MENUS

Today

Lunch — roast pork loin, cornbread, jaegerschnitzel veal with mushroom sauce, glazed cornish hen, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, jalapeno cornbread, barbecue spareribs, stuffed pork chops, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, corn, tempura vegetables, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — lasagna, spaghetti and meat sauce, Italian sweet sausage, garlic toast, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli polonaise, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, pasta salad, three-bean salad, cornbread, clam chowder, vegetable soup, chicken chili, corn O’Brien, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — Mexican baked chicken, Swiss steak, garlic toast, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, garlic toast, steamed rice, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Dinner — fish almonidine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, cajun meatloaf, ribeye steak, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, French peas, glazed carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, spinach lasagna, orange rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, lima beans, corn O’Brien, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Lunch — tuna and noodles, sauerbraten, chicken breast filet parmesan, au gratin potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, peas, fried cabbage, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — roast turkey, baked ham, raisin sauce, fish and fries, cornbread, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, succotash, tempura vegetables, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — roast turkey, baked ham, raisin sauce, fish and fries, cornbread, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, succotash, tempura vegetables, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — paprika beef, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O’Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, spinach salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Dinner — onion lemon baked fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and spaghetti, garlic toast, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, waldorf salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup and steak and cheese subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — fried chicken, cajun baked fish, jalapeno cornbread, barbecue ribs, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, okra and tomato gumbo, fried cabbage, cole slaw, garden cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — Caribbean jerk chicken, jalapeno cornbread, beef porcupines, chicken enchiladas, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, corn, peas, baked beans, coleslaw, cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

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Youth activities center

Friday teen night — 6:30-10 p.m., ages 13-18; \$5. Games, activities, movies and special events; register by Wednesday of each week.

Preteen night — 5:30-9 p.m. Saturdays, ages 6-12; \$5. Games, activities, movies and special events; register by Wednesday of each week.

Free home alone course — 6-7 p.m. today, ages 10 and older. Child must be accompanied by parent.

Junior Smooth Moves relocation workshop — 6-7 p.m. July 28, ages 6-12. To register, call 377-2179.

Teen Warrior Week — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through July 30, residential camp for ages 13-15. \$25. A few openings remain; for more informationn, call 377-4116.

Youth employment skills program — for high school Air Force dependents; volunteer and earn grant money for college. For more information, call 377-4116.

Summer youth volunteers — for information call 377-4116.

Before- and after-school care program — registrations being accepted for children grades K-6.

Harlem diamond fast-pitch softball exhibit — 6 p.m. Tuesday. Tickets available at the youth activities center.

Karate — 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, ages 6 and older. \$30.

Gymnastics — Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 3 and older; \$30 per month. Call for times and age groups.

Training responsible adolescents in leadership/Keystone Club — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 13-17.

Keesler Club

Heritage dinner — 5-8 p.m. Friday. Smokehouse chicken or prime rib.

Lunch buffet — 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays, except holidays. Taco bar Mondays, ribs Tuesday, ethnic Wednesdays, catfish last working day of each week. Daily specials also available.

Wednesday special — 4:30 p.m. until they're gone, free wings and things for club members; \$3 nonmembers. Drink specials and progressive pot cash giveaway for members.

Enlisted Warrior Lounge

NASCAR race watch parties (all ranks) — Sunday; call for time. Food and drink specials, prize giveaways. Club members register to win a trip for two to a major NASCAR event.

Hot dogs — \$1 Mondays through Saturdays.

Pinochle (all ranks) — 7 p.m. Tuesdays.

Eight- and nine-ball pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Karaoke night — 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Fridays.

Rhythm and blues night — 9 p.m. Saturdays.

Urban nights — 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursdays before non-working Fridays.

Snack and drink specials — 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays; progressive pot cash giveaway for members Wednesdays.

TICKETS AND TRAVEL

Aquarium of the Americas/IMAX New Orleans — Aug. 14; \$40 adults, \$33 ages 2-12. Sign up by Aug. 10.

Louisiana swamp/plantation trip — Aug. 20; \$99 adults, \$75 ages 4-12, including lunch and admission. Sign up by Aug. 16.

New Orleans Saints football in Superdome — \$45 per person. Aug. 12, Seattle Seahawks; sign up by Aug. 9. Aug. 26, Baltimore Ravens; sign up by Aug. 23.

VOLUNTEERS

Editor's note: Included are base organizations, events, training orientation and other information for volunteers. For more information on opportunities in the surrounding communities, call Jackie Pope, 377-8590.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — for more information, call Staff Sgt. Shironda Gilchrist, 377-4477.

American Red Cross-Keesler Station — disaster services vol-

unteers for hurricane season and year-round. Free training provided; all skill levels accepted. For more information, call 896-4511.

Chapel — for more information, call 377-2520.

Civil Air Patrol, Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron — 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Room 210, Hangar 3. For more information, call Lt. Col. Linda Steel-Goodwin, 377-7152 or 436-3353, or CAP 1st Lt. Hank Rogers, commander for seniors, 435-6270.

Cub Scout Pack 214 — for more information, call Staff Sgt. Christian Carawan, 385-9433, or Tech. Sgt. Mark Tempone, 594-2003.

Family support center — for more information, visit the center, Room 112, Sablich Center, or call 377-2209 or 4293. Free child care available.

Fisher House — for more information, call Larry Vetter, 377-8264.

Girl Scouts — for more information, call Beverly Brooks, 864-7215, or Cindy Callahan, 388-7757.

High school students — dependents of active-duty people who want to earn money toward college by volunteering, call Jeri Peterson, 377-3349.

Honor guard — for more information, call 377-1986 or 2081.

International military student office — for more information, call 377-4228.

McBride Library — for more information, call Bill Province or Tonie Day, 377-2181 or 2604.

Medical center — for more information, call Emily Shelton, 377-1444.

Retirees activities office — for more information, call 377-3871 or 7309.

MEETINGS

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Building 4002 (Supply), Room 109. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Association, Chapter 332 — 11:30 a.m. second Wednesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call or email Kirt Quist, 326-4775, kirt@financialgroupusa.com, or e-mail Paul Deitke, pdeitke@member.afa.org.

Air Force Sergeants Association, Chapter 652 — 11 a.m. third Tuesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-9444.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Thursday of each month. For location and more information, call Timlie Reis, 396-5872.

Alcoholics Anonymous — 8 p.m. Thursdays, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call 396-0823.

Amateur radio club — 7 p.m. second Monday of each month, second floor, Hangar 3, next to the Civil Air Patrol. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Brad Godwin, 377-0341 or 875-3223, or Staff Sgt. Tony Tran, 377-1200 or 396-4547.

American Federation of Government Employees Local 2670 — 11:30-1 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Helene Almond, 377-6850 or 4518.

Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Committee — 3 p.m. first Wednesday of each month, Magnolia Room, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. John Dianala, 377-6154, or Larry McKean, 377-3252.

AWANA — 4:30-6:30 p.m. Sundays August through May at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets, for preschool through high school students. For more information, call Tasarla Shaw, 377-2520.

Blacks in Government — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Building 4002 (Supply), Room 109. For more information, call Flo Clay, 377-8681.

Boy Scout Troop 253 — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Building 0007, Thrower Park. For more information, go to <http://www.geocities.com/biloxi253/> or call Louie Fontes, 377-1519 or 392-0646.

Breast cancer support group — 6 p.m. first Tuesday of each month, general surgery clinic. For more information, call 377-3454.

Breastfeeding support group — for more information, call Jodi Qualters, 872-9190.

Cancer support group — 6 p.m. second Tuesday each month, medical procedures clinic lounge. For more information, call 377-6588.

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SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6955
:01	:31 338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32 Welch Auditorium
:04	:34 Smith Manor
:07	:37 Cody, Dolan and Thomson Hall
:08	:38 Supply
:09	:39 Shoppette
:10	:40 Shaw House
:11	:41 Main exchange
:12	:42 McBride Library
:13	:43 Medical center, Tyler House
:14	:44 Sablich Center
:15	:45 Dental clinic
:16	:46 Allee and Wolfe Halls
:17	:47 Base operations
:18	:48 Hangar 4
:19	:49 Thomson Hall

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. off-Fridays, weekends, holidays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6955
:02	:32 Shoppette
:04	:34 White Avenue Gate
:05	:35 Shaw House
:06	:36 Main exchange
:07	:37 Keesler Federal Credit Union
:08	:38 Medical center, Tyler House
:09	:39 Sablich Center
:10	:40 Dental clinic
:13	:43 Marina park
:14	:44 Bay Breeze Golf Course
:15	:45 Pass Road Gate
:17	:47 Welch Auditorium
:18	:48 338th TRS, Building 6965

Technical training route 5:10-5:30 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Shaw House
:12	Muse Manor
As required	Tyer House
:14	TLQ east side 2000 block
:16	TLQ east side of Locker House
:17	332nd TRS
:18	335th TRS
:20	Welch Auditorium
:26	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:27	McClelland Hall
:28	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:30	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Allow four-minute window for times; lobby area pickup.

To Keesler via Highway 90: 5:15 a.m. and 1:25 p.m., Comfort Suites, Comfort Inn and Holiday Inn; 5:18 a.m. and 1:28 p.m., Howard Johnson Express and Best Western Swan; 5:21 a.m. and 1:35 p.m., Ramada Limited; 5:25 a.m., Edgewater Inn; 5:32 a.m. and 1:50 p.m., Biloxi Beachfront and Holiday Inn Express.

To Keesler from north of base: 5 a.m. and 1 p.m., Martinique; 5:01 a.m. and 1:04 p.m., South Palm Villas; 5:06-5:10 a.m. and 1:10-1:16 p.m., Ocean Springs Days Inn, Howard Johnson, Holiday Inn and Hampton Inn; 5:11-5:16 a.m. and 1:20-1:31 p.m., Ocean Springs Country Inn and Suites, Ramada Limited, Best Western and Comfort Inn; 5:18-5:22 a.m. and 1:41-1:47 p.m., D'Iberville Wingate Inn, Quality Inn and Travelodge; 5:25-5:35 a.m. and 1:53-1:56 p.m., D'Iberville Howard Johnson and Suburban Lodge.

Back to off-base lodging: 3:30, 4:30 and 6:15 p.m., street side of Hewes Hall for Bryan, Jones, Hewes and Garrard halls; 3:33, 4:33 and 6:18 p.m., Thomson Hall stop for Hangar 3, Thomson, Cody and Dolan halls; 3:36, 4:36 and 6:21 p.m., McClelland Hall; 3:38, 4:38 and 6:23 p.m., behind Allee Hall for 7-level building, weather building and Allee, Wolfe and Stennis halls; 3:41, 4:41 and 6:26 p.m., stop between base exchange and McBride Library.

Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged or have excess baggage, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430.

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Chapel ropes — 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fishbowl Student Center. For more information, call 377-2331.

Charismatic intercessory prayer service — 5:15-6 p.m. Wednesdays at former chapel at corner of H and 2nd streets.

Christian men's fellowship luncheon — noon Tuesdays, Triangle Chapel. Bring lunch. For more information, call 377-2520.

Civil Air Patrol, Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron — 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Room 210, Hangar 3. For more information, call Lt. Col. Linda Steel-Goodwin, 377-7152 or 436-3353, or CAP 1st Lt. Hank Rogers, commander for seniors, 435-6270.

Company grade officers council — 4 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Capts. Branin Klausman, 377-4045, or Jeffrey Burns, 377-0663, or visit <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/CGOC/index.htm>.

Cub Scout Pack 214 — for information, call Staff Sgt. Christian Carawan, 385-9433, or Tech. Sgt. Mark Tempone, 594-2003.

Cub Scout Pack 281 — 6:30 p.m. first, second and fourth Thursday of each month, Triangle Chapel Annex. For more information, call 1st Lt. Garon Shelton, 377-2046; Norma Cusanek, 432-3160, or Chad Taylor, 594-0877.

Dorm council — 7 a.m. first Wednesday of each month, Live Oak dining facility. For more information, call 377-6158 or 6680.

Girl Scout Troop 148 — 6 p.m. Mondays, former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For more information, call Kimberly Ramirez, 374-7426.

Hispanic Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Maria Ochoa, 377-2211, 388-3426 or 424-7036.

Hispanic Employment Committee — 4 p.m. second Wednesday of each month, family child care building, Thrower Park. For more information, call Maria Ochoa, 377-2211, 388-3426 or 424-7036.

Keesler Officers Spouses Club — for more information, call Michelle Harper, 872-5791; Amanda Letonoff, 432-8626, or Patty Stiles, 392-8582.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of each month, September through May, former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. Open to all military home educators. For more information, call Vicky Walton, 436-6408, or e-mail chajanding@aol.com.

Keesler Riders Association — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Keesler Community Center, for motorcyclists. For more information, call Gerald Gardner, 377-2386, or Tech. Sgt. Joanna Ball, 377-2430 or 2432.

Medical center officers spouses club — for more information, call Stephanie Ritter, 374-2464, or Belinda Manuel, 432-7734.

Multiples support group — For more information, call Sue Burleson, 865-1375.

Order of Daedalians — 6:30 p.m. third Tuesday of each month, Daedalian Room, Keesler Club.

Play group — 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays, youth activities center, infants through 4 years. For more information, call 377-7006.

Prayer warriors network — 6 a.m. Mondays, Triangle Chapel.

Protestant youth group — 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday, 7-7:45 p.m. Tuesdays and 7-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Larcher

KIRT

Keesler Integrated Resource Team members serve the community needs of military personnel and families. Member agencies support mission readiness and provide preventive or intervention services to promote mental and spiritual growth, physical health, and strong military members and their families.

KIRT members are:

Life skills enhancement center — 377-6216, comment line 377-6780.

Family support center — 377-2179.

Family advocacy — 377-7006.

Family member program — 377-3077.

Health and wellness center — 377-5305.

403rd Wing — 377-3277.

Chapel — Larcher, 377-4859; Keesler Medical Center, 377-6337; Triangle, 377-2520, and Fishbowl Student Center, 377-2331.

Classes, seminars

Investing strategies — 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, Room 230A, Sablich Center. To register, call 377-2179.

Tobacco cessation class — next class starts Aug. 3.

Chapel. For more information, call Jeremy Allen, 377-2520.

Retired Enlisted Association, Magnolia Chapter — 7 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Magnolia Room, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of each month, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Durrell Edwards, 377-2520.

Toastmasters — noon Tuesdays, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Capt. Ronnie Michael, 377-7395; or Michael Bayne, 872-9359.

Top III Association — 2 p.m. first working Friday of each month, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Damian Orslene, 377-9464; Master Sgt. Stephen Marrotte, 377-2052; Senior Master Sgt. Marnice Anthony, 377-5752; Master Sgt. Rudolfo Frescas, 377-2142; or Master Sgt. Richard Phillips, 377-5249.

Weight Watchers — Thursdays, Keesler Community Center. Weigh-in starts at 5:15 p.m., meeting at 5:45. For more information, call Debbie Wilson, 831-8772, or e-mail debbie_weightwatchers@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

As of today, Thursday shows and 9:30 p.m. Saturday shows are cancelled until further notice due to low attendance.

Friday — 7 p.m., Madagascar (PG).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants; 7 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. Smith (PG-13).

Sunday — 2 p.m., Madagascar (PG).

Keesler Thrift Shop

Mondays — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (sales only)

Wednesdays and Thursdays

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (sales); 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (consignments accepted at rear entrance)

Building 3217, 412 3rd Street, behind the Keesler Club

377-3217

operated by the Keesler Officers Spouses Club